



The XXIII News

St. John XXIII, OFS fraternity

Secular Franciscan Order ~ USA

March 2019

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

We are Secular Franciscans living in the world and sharing our Franciscan Charism by “going from gospel to life, and life to the gospel”, by following Jesus Christ in the footsteps of St. Francis and St. Clare; and by following our apostolic Rule we strive to build up the Kingdom of God in our lifetimes by our prayers, works and fraternal community.

March Gatherings

March 10 – Fraternity Meeting, 1:00pm – 3:30pm. Ambrose Hall, room #4.

**FRATERNITY ELECTIONS–
all need to be present!**

Snacks & Fruit – council members

March 6 – ASH WEDNESDAY

March 25 – ANNUNCIATION of the LORD

March III Order Feasts

8. St. Jean de Dieu
9. St. Frances of Rome
12. Bl. Louis Orione
14. St. Catherine de Genes
16. Bl. Torello de Poppi
20. Bl. Hippolyte Galentini
21. Bl Amedee IX de Savoie
23. Bl. Jeremie Lambertenghi
24. Bl. Catherine de Suede
27. Bl. Joseph-Sebastien Pelczar
29. Bl. Jeanne-Marie de Maille
31. St. Leonard Murialdo

Upcoming Events

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!!

March 17 – Lenten Day of Reflection

Sponsored by the Our Lady of Consolation fraternity at the Franciscan Retreats and Spirituality Center in Prior Lake. 2:00 pm – 6:00 pm. Pot Luck soup and bread supper.

RSVP Bonnie at 952-707-0623.

March 23 – Spring Gathering of the OFS

Little Falls Mother House, Little Falls, MN. 8:30 am – 3:00 pm, including lunch and Mass. \$30.00

May 2 – Interfaith Prayer Service

St. Bonaventure Church. 7:00 pm. Fr. Steve will give the reflection and Kathy the intentions.

April Gatherings

April 14 – Fraternity Meeting, 1:00pm – 3:30pm. Ambrose Hall, room #4.

Gospel Sharing – Bonita

Formation – Holy Half-Hours – Prologue Ch.1

Snacks – Trudy; Fruit – Kathleen

April 14 – Palm Sunday

April 21 - EASTER

April III Order Feasts

1. Bl. Elisabeth Vendramini
2. St. Francois de Paule
4. Bl. Guillaume de Sici
5. St. Marie-Crescence
6. Bl. Angele Salawa
7. Bl. Maria-Assunta
14. Bl. Lidwyne de Schiedam
15. Bl. Gandolphe de Binasco
15. Tim Taormina's birthday
16. St. Benedict-Joseph Labore, Cord Bearer
17. Jim Terry's birthday
18. Kathy Taormina's Profession anniversary, 1994
26. Bl. Pierre De Pethancourt, Priest
27. St. Zita de Lucques
28. St. Paul of the Cross,
28. Bl. Luchesius, 1st Secular Franciscan
29. Bonita Hartmann & Janet Holmes Profession anniversary 2012
30. St. Joseph-Benoit Cottolengo

Pope's Prayers for March

Evangelization – Christian Communities

That Christian communities, especially those who are persecuted, feel that they are close to Christ and have their rights respected.



Fraternity Prayer List

We pray for:

The Fraternity's election in March 2019;
Fr. Steve, his UST students & the Theology Dept.;
Bonita's upcoming wrist surgery;
Gloria's continued healing of a blood clot;
Janet's successful hip surgery and her healing;
A good friend, a wonderful person, who absolutely does not believe in God;
Joe's complicated health issues due to his meds;
In gratitude for a beautiful Christmas for Kathie;
Kathy & Tim's family and thanksgiving for all:
Lori's Youth Ministry and religion class students and for her husband and a family;
A family reunion with a 1st child to go well;
Mitzi's family and the children's school year;
Grandchildren in need of support and guidance;
The health and happiness of Trudy, her children and grandchildren;
Those suffering with influenza and other illnesses;
And all the prayers in the depths of our hearts!

Fraternity Meeting Minutes

February 10, 2019

No meeting due to the snow and freezing cold

Respectfully submitted by Mitzi Speranzella, OFS

Fraternity Treasury Report

\$ 878.37	Balance as of January 31, 2019
\$ 150.00	- Queen of Peace Region/election
\$ 100.63	+ February Common Fund
\$ 29.72	- Bachman's plant for Janet
\$ 799.28	Balance as of February 28, 2019

Funds needed on January 1, 2020:

\$ 880.00	2020 Fair Share for 16 OFS
\$ 385.00	2020 Fair Share SJS 7 OFS
\$1,265.00	Total for 2020

Respectfully submitted by Kathy Taormina, OFS

Fraternity Infirmary Report

God is good! My recent hip surgery went well and I want to thank everyone for their prayers and ask you to continue the prayers through my recovery time.

Respectfully submitted by Janet Holmes, OFS

WORDS of WISDOM:

The bedrock of the Secular Franciscan life is prayer, stemming from the example Jesus has given us in the Gospels. Jesus prayed before, after and during each encounter of his day. He never moved into action without first being present to and communicating with his Father. It is this example that we are to follow. All that Secular Franciscans are and do stems from this communication with God.

*~ Teresa V. Baker, OFS, "The Rule of the Secular Franciscan Order" (Chapter 12 of the **FUN Manual**)*

GOSPEL - Luke 4:1-13

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the desert for forty days, to be tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and when they were over he was hungry. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread." Jesus answered him, "It is written, *One does not live on bread alone.*"

Then he took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a single instant. The devil said to him, "I shall give to you all this power and glory; for it has been handed over to me, and I may give it to whomever I wish. All this will be yours, if you worship me." Jesus said to him in reply, "It is written: *You shall worship the Lord, your God, and him alone shall you serve.*" Then he led him to Jerusalem, made him stand on the parapet of the temple, and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written: *He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you, and: With their hands they will support you, lest you dash your foot against a stone.*" Jesus said to him in reply, "It also says, *You shall not put the Lord, your God, to the test.*" When the devil had finished every temptation, he departed from him for a time.

SJ23rd Council

Minister – Tim Taormina, 612-695-7097

V. Minister – Lori Hinker, 952.457.2208

Secretary – Mitzi Speranzella, 612.979-7168

Treasurer – open

Formation – Trudy Phillips, 256.777.7949

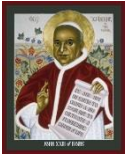
Spiritual Assistant – Fr. Steve McMichael, OFM Conv.

Infirmary – Janet Holmes, 952-943-1518

Prayer Line – Bonita Hartmann, 952-854-4074

*****Remember – to be excused, please call one of the above Council members!**

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fraternity
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Election of Council Offices of the St. John XXIII, OFS fraternity March 10, 2019

We must have a quorum for the election, so this meeting is mandatory for all Professed.

The Queen of Peace Regional Council is sending Gordon Walker, OFS, as the President of Elections and A friar will be the witness for our elections.

NOMINATIONS AS OF FEBRUARY 2019

**Nominations need to be accepted before the members are on the ballot in March.*

MINISTER – Kathie Sirek

VICE MINISTER – Norma Noonan; Kathie Sirek

SECRETARY – Norma Noonan; Kathie Sirek; Mitzi Speranzella;

TREASURER – Norma Noonan; Kathie Sirek; Tim Taormina

FORMATION DIRECTOR – Norma Noonan; Kathy Taormina

*“Their service, which lasts for a definite period, is marked by a **ready and willing spirit** and is a **duty of responsibility** to each member and the community”*

OFS Rule, Article 21



PRAYER FOR OFS LEADERSHIP

Give us, O God,
leaders whose hearts are large enough
to match the breadth of our own souls
and give us souls strong enough
to follow leaders of vision and wisdom.

In seeking a leader, let us seek
more than our own enhancement --
though enhancement we hope for --
more than security for our own plans and vision --
though security we need --
more than satisfaction for our own selfish wants --
though many things we desire.

Give us the hearts to choose and follow the leader
who will work with other leaders to bring Your will
to the agenda and help us to fulfill it.

Give us leaders who lead us to virtue
without seeking to impose their own version of
virtue on others.

Give us leaders who will
provide for the advancement of our Order
without dictating to others to achieve it.

Give us insight enough ourselves
to choose as leaders those who can tell
strength from power,
growth from greed,
leadership from dominance,
and real greatness from the trappings of
grandiosity.

We trust you, Great God,
to open our hearts to learn from those
to whom you speak in different tongues
and to respect the life and words
of those to whom you entrusted
the good of other parts of this globe.

We beg you, Great God,
give us the vision as Secular Franciscans
to know where holy leadership truly lies,
to pursue it diligently,
to ask it to respect the integrity of every person
in the entire Order.

We ask these things, Great God,
with minds open to your word
and hearts that trust in your eternal care. Amen.

*Adapted Fr. Kevin Queally, TOR ~ from "Prayer for Leadership" ~ by
Sr. Joan Chittister, OSB*

THE OFFICES OF THE LOCAL OFS FRATERNITY

(See General Constitutions 2000, Article 50-52)

The **minister** has the following duties:

- a. to call, to preside at, and to direct the meetings of the fraternity and council; to convoke, every three years, the elective chapter of the fraternity, having heard the council on the formalities of the convocation;
- b. to prepare the annual report to be sent to the council of the higher level after it has been approved by the council of the fraternity;
- c. to represent the fraternity in all its relations with ecclesiastical and civil authorities. When the fraternity acquires a juridical personality in the civil order, the minister becomes, when possible, its legal representative;
- d. to request, with the consent of the council, the pastoral and fraternal visits, at least once every three years.

The **vice-minister** has the following duties:

- a. to collaborate in a fraternal spirit and to support the minister in carrying out his or her specific duties;
- b. to exercise the functions entrusted by the council and/or by the assembly or chapter;
- c. to take the place of the minister in both duties and responsibilities in case of absence or temporary impediment;
- d. to assume the functions of the minister when the office remains vacant.

The **secretary** has the following duties:

- a. to compile the official acts of the fraternity and of the council and to assure that they are sent to their respective proper recipients;
- b. to see to the updating and preservation of the records and the registers, noting admissions, professions, deaths, withdrawals, and transfers from the fraternity;
- c. to provide for the communication of the more important facts to the various levels and, if appropriate, to provide for their dissemination through the mass media.

The **treasurer** has the following duties:

- a. to guard diligently the contributions received, recording each receipt in the appropriate register, with the date on which it was given, the name of the contributor, or the one from whom it was collected;
- b. to record in the same register the items of expense, specifying the date and the purpose, in conformity with the directions of the fraternity council.
- c. to send all financial information to the Regional Secretary in due time to have an audit performed.

The **formation director** has the following duties:

- a. to co-ordinate, with the help of the other members of the council, the formative activities of the fraternity;
- b. to instruct and enliven the inquirers during the time of initiation, the candidates during the period of initiation formation, and the newly professed;
- c. to inform the council of the fraternity prior to profession, concerning the suitability of the candidate for a commitment to live according to the Rule.

To be considered for an office, the Secular Franciscan should be: willing to learn their duties, be present at the fraternity meetings and the council meetings, give a report of their activities to the fraternity, and be able to work with the council as a team to animate the fraternity.